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# Wisdom, Kindness and Appreciation.

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**T**HE most precious attribute in man is wisdom or common sense. Brilliance pales before it. In every walk of life there is brought home to us every day the value of wisdom. There are people in the world who outstrip their neighbors and competitors in every rivalry. They look at things with keener appreciation; they know things better and

as it were by instinct. These people are generally credited with wisdom. They usually have knowledge. If an invention of striking value comes out they secure it. If a book of surpassing merit is issued they buy it, and the sum of it all is, these people get ahead and the others don't know why. The way the knowing ones are buying the portfolios of "WILD FLOWERS OF AMERICA" is the latest instance, striking and convincing. These people know just as well as if they saw the tangible evidence that they will never have an opportunity to get these portfolios at the nominal figure for which they are now securing them, and the consequence is the wise of both sexes and all ages who know about them are buying them. That's Wisdom.

## KINDNESS.

Next to Wisdom and a beautiful companion for it—is Kindness. There are tens of thousands who have not had the opportunity of seeing the announcements of the Wild Flower portfolios, and would have missed them

entirely had it not been for the KINDNESS of others telling and writing to friends, informing them how and where they can get them. Thousands of these are cutting out coupons and sending them to friends. Isn't this KINDNESS? It is kindness that will be appreciated more and more as the years roll by, when many a man and woman will be heard to say, "I would not have had the 'Wild Flowers of America' if it had not been for my good friend——." Kindness endureth. Perhaps some others will let their friends know that for a short, short time back numbers of "Wild Flower" portfolios may be procured through the same medium.

## APPRECIATION.

Here follow a few extracts from letters received giving evidence of appreciation. And so this great work is passing on, and millions will lament the lost opportunity when it is too late.

"Wild Flowers of America" fill a long-felt want.

**Amos J. Cummings,**

*U. S. Congressman.*

"Wild Flowers of America" carried out with the enthusiasm of a botanist and the skill of an artist.

**Professor W. Wilson,**

*Chairman U. S. Committee Ways and Means.*

Nothing that has come under my notice is to be compared with the "Wild Flowers of America," by G. H. Buek & Co.

**W. T. Harris,**

*Chairman U. S. Bureau Education, Washington.*

"Wild Flowers of America" for the first time places the native flowers of the United States within the reach of every man, woman and child of our land.

**Amos J. Cummings.**

Regarding "Wild Flowers of America," by G. H. Buek & Co., while there are a number of works in which a few of our more conspicuous plants are figured, there is none so far as I know that is so exhaustive as this.

**Professor F. H. Knowlton,**

*Department of Botany, Smithsonian Institution, Washington.*

"Wild Flowers of America," by G. H. Buek & Co., is a happy idea.

**Professor W. Wilson,**

*Chairman U. S. Committee Ways and Means, Washington.*





— 225 —  
LEAD PLANT.  
*AMORPHA FRUTICOSA.*



— 226 —  
FALSE DRAGON-HEAD.  
*PHYSOSTEGIA VIRGINIANA.*  
JULY.

PLATE 225.

LEAD PLANT. AMORPHA FRUTICOSA. (PEA FAMILY.)

*Shrubby, stems becoming herbaceous towards the summit, much branched, smooth or sparingly pubescent; leaves alternate, odd-pinnate; leaflets numerous on short petiolules, oblong, mucronate pubescent especially on the veins beneath; flowers small in long paniced racemes; calyx five-toothed; petals wanting except the standard, which encloses stamens and style.*



MORPHA is very peculiar among our genera of the Pea Family. The showy flowers—fancifully termed butterfly-shaped by the old botanists, which distinguished most of the members of this great order, are replaced in the Lead Plants by small blossoms, inconspicuous when taken separately, though quite showy as they grow in tassel-like clusters. These are dark-purple or rose-color, the exserted golden-yellow stamens making a pretty contrast of color. The corolla consists of but a single petal, the “standard,” which is wrapped about the stamens. The “wings” and the “keel,” which go to make up the perfect flower of the Pea Family, have quite disappeared. Hence the name “Amorpha” which means “deformed.”

Amorpha Fruticosa is the most common species in Eastern North America. It grows in Pennsylvania, straying northward and from there southward to the Gulf of Mexico, but is much more common west of the Appalachian region, extending across the plains to the Rocky Mountains. It is usually met with in bottom-lands along streams, often attaining quite considerable size. It was called the Lead Plant because it was supposed to indicate the presence of lead in the soil. If so, there is lead almost everywhere, perhaps in minute quantities, along the banks of our Western and Southern rivers.

PLATE 226.

FALSE DRAGON-HEAD. PHYSOSTEGIA VIRGINIANA. (MINT FAMILY.)

*Stem smooth, erect from a short, perennial rootstock, four-angled, leafy, branching at summit; leaves alternate sessile, lanceolate or ovate-oblong, acuminate at apex, coarsely serrate; flowers large in a simple or compound spike; corolla labiate, throat open.*



FALSE DRAGON-HEAD is one of the most splendid American representatives of the Mint Family. Like the Skull-caps and the False Snap-dragon, it has no perfume, doubtless depending on the showiness of its flowers to attract insects. Most of this family have small-whitish or purplish insignificant flowers in dense clusters. Physostegia Virginiana, on the other hand, has large, handsome blossoms in a rather long spike or cluster of spikes. They are rose-purple in color, more or less spotted with a darker shade. In general appearance they remind us somewhat of those of the Fox-glove. The foliage is of a dark, glossy-green color. The whole plant is smooth, the stem slender and upright, making the Physostegia a strikingly elegant feature in a landscape. As it grows in open woods or in upland fields, its beauty is seen to full advantage. It is certainly remarkable that this showy plant has not found its way into our gardens.

The False Dragon-head grows wild from Western Canada and New England south to the Gulf and west to Texas, opening its pretty flowers in gradual succession in July and August. There is a closely allied species in Kentucky and southwestward.





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 SPREADING POGONIA.  
*POGONIA DIVARICATA*,  
 JUNE.



— 228 —  
 YELLOW FOX-GLOVE.  
*DASYSTOMA PEDICULARIA*,  
 AUGUST—SEPT.

PLATE 227.

SPREADING POGONIA. POGONIA DIVARICATA. (ORCHIS FAMILY.)

*Stem erect from a cluster of thickened fibrous roots, simple, quite smooth, sometimes two feet high; leaves two, the lower near the middle of the stem, oblong-lanceolate, the upper just below the flower, narrower; flower solitary, large, nodding; sepals narrow, wide-spreading; lip three-lobed and crested.*



PERHAPS the most handsome of our species of Pogonia is the Divaricata. Though not as showy as the Snake-mouthed Pogonia, it is more delicate, and the flower is more strikingly odd in its structure. The stem is taller than in the other species, sometimes attaining the respectable height of two feet. It bears two leaves, the upper close under the flower. The latter nods solitary at the summit of the stalk. It is larger than the blossom of any other American species. It is not so brightly colored as that of Pogonia Ophioglossoides. The sepals are long and narrow, brown in color, while in the Snake-mouthed Pogonia they are of the same hue as the petals. The petals in Pogonia Divaricata are pale flesh-color, and do not spread widely like the sepals. The lip is also pale pink, more or less spotted with yellow-green. The edges are slightly inrolled, giving it a peculiar trough-shape. It bears a raised line or crest along the center.

Pogonia Divaricata is mostly a pine-barren plant of the coastal plain, growing in either moist or dry soil. It has also been met with on oak-covered ridges in the interior of the continent and straying northward.

PLATE 228.

YELLOW FOX-GLOVE. DASYSTOMA PEDICULARIA. (FIGWORT FAMILY.)

*Usually annual; viscid glandular pubescent; stem erect, widely branched, leafy; leaves ovate in outline, the upper lanceolate, pinnatifid, the lobes pinnately toothed, uppermost much reduced; flowers on slender, axillary peduncles; corolla large, campanulate, two-lipped, throat woolly; stamens four, in pairs, anthers woolly.*



EACH season of the circling year floats a hue all its own in its bannerets of field and woodland. In early spring, white and delicate shades of pink and blue are the modest colors of the sweetly simple dress worn by the first wild flowers. Queenly summer begins her reign with a blaze of crimson and scarlet and purple, the proper hues of royal state. With the later summer comes the season of yellow. The flowers catch and hold the golden sunshine that is ripening fruit and grain. It is the time of the bold Sunflowers, and the brilliant Golden-rods follow fast upon them. Then, when

"A noble grief  
Has beautified the woods in their decay,"

the last wild flowers—Asters and Gentians—put on the color of the sky, a deep and tender blue, well in keeping with the mild sadness of October.

Coming with the Sunflowers, attuned to their bright yellow, are the Dasystomas, the False or Yellow Fox-gloves. Of these, one of the most familiar is Dasystoma Pedicularia, a handsome, bushy-branched plant of dry hillside woods. The large, bell-shaped, light yellow blossoms are not unlike those of the European Fox-glove. This species ranges from Canada and New England to Arkansas and Florida, blossoming in August. The whole plant is covered with sticky, glandular hairs.





— 229 —  
**BEACH PEA.**  
*LATHYRUS MARITIMUS.*  
 JUNE.



— 230 —  
**TRICARDIA WATSONI.**  
 (WATER LEAF FAMILY.)  
 JUNE—AUGUST.

PLATE 229.

BEACH PEA. LATHYRUS MARITIMUS. (PEA FAMILY.)

*Stem rather stout, smooth, branching, striate, leafy; leaves alternate, almost sessile, pinnate, with large, ovate, sagittate stipules; leaflets rhombic-ovate, mucronate, veiny; rhachis terminating in a branching tendril; flowers few in long-peduncled racemes, blue-purple; pods flattened, pointed, few-seeded.*



ORDSWORTH, viewing nature as it appeared about his inland home by the beautiful Westmoreland Lake, wrote of flowers that reflect  
 "The common countenance of earth and sky."

But, in the Beach Pea, we have a plant that mirrors the hue of sea and sky, the clear green of the ocean in its leaves, the fresh blue of the summer sky in its blossoms. It is a plant of the Atlantic coast, from New Jersey to the shores of the Northern sea. It is also found on the Pacific seaboard, northward from Oregon to the Arctic Ocean. It belies its name "Maritimus" to a certain extent, by appearing on the shores of the Great Lakes, perhaps as a survivor from the distant time when old ocean covered their beds.

It is a handsome plant, the Beach Pea, much recalling the form of its lovely relative, the Sweet Pea of our gardens. The stem is erect when young, but soon learns to depend on other plants for support. For this purpose its branching tendrils are well adapted. The blossoms are rather small when compared with those of most Wild Peas. In color they are deep purple-blue, almost violet, fading to a lighter shade.

The Beach Pea flowers in late summer. It is not confined to the New World, occurring in Europe as well, where

"The tired ocean crawls along the beach,  
 Sobbing a wordless sorrow to the moon."

PLATE 230.

TRICARDIA WATSONI. (WATER-LEAF FAMILY.)

*Low perennial; stems hairy, branching from near the base, ascending; leaves alternate, oblong, the lower long-petioled, the upper ovate, almost sessile, entire, acute at both ends; flowers few in a bracted raceme; outer three sepals much enlarged in fruit; corolla purple, slightly five-lobed.*

"Behold a purple flower,  
 Fainting through heat, hang down her drooping head,  
 But soon refreshed with a welcome shower,  
 Begin again her lively beauties spread,  
 And with new pride her silken leaves display;  
 And while the sun doth now more gentle play,  
 Lay out her swelling bosom to the smiling day."



TRICARDIA WATSONI is the only species of its genus. It is one of the many rare plants of the great West that have been collected a few times by professional botanists, but are almost unknown to plant lovers in general. It was found at one or two points among the foot-hills of mountains of Western Nevada, about four thousand feet above the sea. The discoverer was the well-known botanist, Sereno Watson, to whom Dr. Torrey dedicated the species. The name of the genus, Tricardia, means "three hearts," a pretty allusion to the large, membranaceous, beautifully veined outer sepals, which are heart-shaped at the base.

The Tricardia is a handsome plant. The flowers, pale purple in color, are small, but dainty. The corolla is shaped like a delicate little tea-cup, except for the wide-spreading border. The most conspicuous parts of the plant are the large thin sepals, that remind us of the papery involucre leaves of some of the Four-o'clocks.

The Water-leaf Family, to which our plant belongs, is remarkable for the almost total absence of any important qualities. Most of these plants are very beautiful—none are of value economically. Some authors have united them with the Borage Family.





— 231 —  
 STRIPED MAPLE.  
*ACER PENNSYLVANICUM*.  
 JUNE.



— 232 —  
 ROTHROCK'S NAMA.  
*NAMA ROTHROCKII*.

PLATE 231.

STRIPED MAPLE. ACER PENNSYLVANICUM. (MAPLE FAMILY.)

*Small tree, with slender trunk; bark gray-green, with dark green striations; leaves large, pubescent when young, short ovate or almost orbicular in outline, three-lobed, lobes acuminate, closely double-serrate; flowers slender-pedicelled, in drooping racemes; petals obovate, greenish, much longer than the calyx-lobes; wings of fruit broad and divergent.*



IF our gardeners were to impress forest-trees into their service, they might well begin with the Maples. Always handsome and graceful in trunk and spray and foliage, they are easily our first favorites. Whether in their native forests or amid the tamer surroundings of park or lawn, a well-grown Maple is a thing of beauty. Several European species, the Norway Maple, the so-called "Sycamore" (*Acer Pseudo-Platanus*), and *Acer Campestre*, are much cultivated in America. They are not more beautiful than several of our native species. The stately Sugar-maple, whose sap contains rich stores of delicious sugar, the striking looking Silver-maple that grows with willow and birch along our rivers, and the superb Red-maple, that dons a garb of crimson in spring and again in autumn, are first among our eastern maples. Several Rocky Mountain species are equally handsome.

Of the smaller species, the prettiest is the Striped or Rock Maple, *Acer Pennsylvanicum*, a native of Eastern North America, from Canada and New England to Minnesota and southward along the mountains to Georgia. The large, bright green leaves and the greenish-yellow flowers in gracefully drooping racemes, give it a very different look from other maples. The bark, which is olive-green with dark stripes, is an odd feature of this little tree.

PLATE 232.

ROTHROCK'S NAMA. NAMA ROTHROCKII. (WATERLEAF FAMILY.)

*Root perennial, woody; stem branching from the base, herbaceous, densely clothed with a short white pubescence; leaves alternate, sub-sessile, narrowly oblong, deeply toothed, obtuse at apex, base acute, hairy; flowers numerous in a dense terminal cluster; corolla funnel-shaped, little longer than the sepals.*



HERE we have a genus almost exclusively North American, only a single species of *Nama* being found outside of North and South America. The only foreign species is a native of the Sandwich Islands. These plants are tropical or subtropical. In this country most of the species are inhabitants of the Southwest. One, *Nama Jamaicense*, occurs along the Gulf coast as far east as Florida, and is also found in Mexico and on some of the West India islands. The genus was named by Linnæus from a Greek word meaning "a spring," because most of the species are found in moist places.

*Nama Rothrockii* is one of several species of California. It is found along the Kern River in the southern part of that State, growing in low meadows. It is a local plant, occurring in a very restricted territory. It is handsome, low of stature, with narrow, deeply cut leaves. The whole plant is covered with soft hairs. The flowers are quite pretty, rose-purple in color, forming a crowded, spike-like cluster.

*Nama Rothrockii* was named by Dr. Gray in honor of Dr. J. T. Rothrock, botanist to Wheeler's Expedition, and author of the botany of the report of that expedition.



PLATE 233.

PALE CORYDALIS. CAPNOIDES SEMPERVIRENS (CORIDALIS GLAUCA.) (FUMITORY FAMILY.)

*Biennial, whole plant smooth, glaucous; stem erect, much branched, usually rather stout; lower leaves much dissected, uppermost nearly entire; flowers in more or less panicle racemes; corolla very irregular, with a single, conspicuous spur; pods long, narrow.*

"June 6, 1853, 4.30 A. M.—Corydalis glauca, a delicate glaucous plant rarely met with, with delicate flesh-colored and yellow flowers, covered with a glaucous bloom, on dry rocky hills. Perhaps it suggests gentility. Set it down as early as middle of May or earlier."—THOREAU.



**T**HIS handsome plant, rare in many localities, is yet not an uncommon tenant of dry rocks. It is met with in the wide ranges of the East and far to the North and West. Commencing to flower in May, it puts forth its blossoms bravely even as late as August, though the scorching heat of the dog-day sun upon the rocks whereon it grows has completely withered its leaves. It is odd that so fragile a little plant can bear so sturdily the heat that blasts everything else about it.

The foliage, like that of all the plants of the Fumitory Family is delicately cut and dissected and is white with a light bloom. The flowers are small. They are oddly fashioned, a spur protruding at the base. The prevailing tint is a delicate rose-color, while the tip is of pale lemon-yellow, an exquisite combination.

The Fumitories, like their cousins the Poppies, are almost always delicate plants with brittle stems. They differ in their irregular flowers.

PLATE 234.

WHITE AVENS. GEUM ALBUM. (ROSE FAMILY.)

*Stem hirsute, erect, widely branched above, zig-zag; root-leaves, compound or more often simple and round-heart-shaped; stem-leaves of three rhombic-ovate, coarsely serrate and often obscurely lobed leaflets; stipules rather large; blossoms in a few-flowered terminal corymb; petals five, small; achenes crowded on the receptacle, tipped with the hooked styles.*



**T**HOUGH the Rose Family are usually handsome plants, there are some remarkable exceptions to the rule. The Agrimony, for instance, a rough-hairy weed-like plant with insignificant yellow flowers and bur-like fruit, a common denizen of woods and thickets, possesses little of the family elegance. The White Avens, too, is a plant not much to be praised for outward beauty, though revealing much of interest to him who is curious enough to examine its structure. The stem is hairy, the leaves rather coarsely lobed and toothed, the flowers small and unattractive. Much showier than the five white petals is the head of fruit. Each separate fruit is tipped with the much elongated style, which is curiously twisted above the middle. The upper part breaks off when old, leaving the lower part with a hook at the end, so that the whole head forms a bur, ready to take hold of anything that comes along, and steal a ride to a new place of sowing. The White Avens inhabits rich moist woods and thickets, throughout Eastern North America, flowering pretty much all summer.

Although Geum Album is not a particularly handsome plant, others of the genus possess claims to good looks. Geum Rivale, the Purple Avens, common to this country and Europe, is quite a pretty plant. Geum Radiatum, a species with bright yellow flowers, native in the mountains of North Carolina, is really showy.



— 233 —  
PALE CORYDALIS.  
CAPNOIDES SEMPERVIRENS.  
JUNE.



— 234 —  
WHITE AVENS.  
GEUM ALBUM.  
JUNE—SEPT.



PLATE 235.

VETCH. VICIA CRACCA. (PEA FAMILY.)

*Perennial pubescent; stem slender, branching, climbing by tendrils; leaves alternate, pinnate, leaflets ten or twelve pairs, the leaf ending in a tendril; flowers in long-peduncled axillary, rather dense racemes; corolla violet-blue, much exceeding the calyx; pod broad, flattened, few-seeded.*



AMONG field weeds in the Old World, Vetches or Tares have long been known as the most troublesome. The parable of the sower and many other allusions to these plants in the Bible show how much they were detested in the East thousands of years ago. The common Vetch, *Vicia Sativa*, is the most abundant species in Europe, and is a serious pest when it gets into grain-fields. This, as well as several other Old World species, has become naturalized in North America, but has hardly made itself known yet as a noxious weed. Our native species are rather shy and retiring plants, confining themselves to uncultivated fields and to woods and thickets. *Vicia Caroliniana* is one of the prettiest of our Vetches. It is a delicate little plant, with slender racemes of white or bluish flowers, not uncommon in open dry woods, especially southward. *Vicia Americana* is larger and coarser, having pale purple flowers.

*Vicia Cracca* is a native of Europe, as well as of the northeastern part of North America. It is found in Newfoundland, and thence along the Atlantic coast to New Jersey and southwestward to Kentucky. It is a hairy plant, the flowers in dense clusters, blue at first, becoming purple. A good many other plants have this chameleon quality, and in a higher degree. The flowers of the Changeable Hibiscus are white in the morning, pink at noon, and bright red by sundown. A bright pink Phlox has, in early morning, a light blue color, which gradually passes to the normal hue of the flower. To the naturalists, who ever seek an explanation in a gain, this habit suggests an attractiveness to a widened variety of insect ministers, just as the fisherman changes his bait so as to catch a new kind of fish.

PLATE 236.

WATER LEAF. HYDROPHYLLUM VIRGINICUM. (WATER-LEAF FAMILY.)

*Rootstock short, scaly; stem erect, sparingly branched, a foot or two high; leaves few, scattered, long-petioled, pinnatifid, segments ovate-lanceolate, deeply and sharply toothed; flowers in compound cymes; corolla blue, exceeding the narrow calyx-lobes, open bell-shaped; stamens considerably exerted, anthers linear.*

"Plants that hourly change  
Their blossoms, through a boundless range  
Of intermingling hues;  
With budding, fading, faded flowers  
They stand, the wonder of the bowers  
From morn to evening dews."—WORDSWORTH.



FLOWERS of the Water-leaf are arranged in the form of cluster known as a cyme. The blossom in the center of the cluster opens first, then the next, and so on to the outermost. Thus we have "budding, fading, faded flowers" on the same plant at the same time. It strangely enhances the beauty of a newly opened blossom that there should be both withered and unopened flowers beside it. The fullness of life is all the fairer if youth and old age are beside each other to afford contrast.

*Hydrophyllum Virginicum* is a plant of rich woods in Eastern North America. It is most common northward, but is not infrequent at higher altitudes in the South. It blossoms all summer. This Water-leaf is a handsomer plant than most of the others. The dark green leaves, deeply cut and lobed, go well with the blue-purple flowers. These are lacking in odor, as in most of the family. When the Water-leaf is endowed with odor, it is usually disagreeable, as in the Cut-leaved *Phacelia*.



— 235 —  
**VETCH.**  
*VICIA CRACCA.*  
 JUNE.



— 236 —  
**WATER LEAF.**  
*HYDROPHYLLUM VIRGINICUM.*  
 JUNE.



PLATE 237.

AGRIMONY. AGRIMONIA STRIATA. (ROSE FAMILY.)

*Perennial; stem erect from a cluster of tuberous-thickened roots, more or less hairy, sparingly branched; leaves interrupted-pinnate, with coarsely-toothed stipules; leaflets five or seven, oblong-obovate, with much smaller ones between; flowers small, in slender spike-like racemes; petals five, yellow; fruit two achenes enclosed in the bristly, top-shaped calyx-tube.*

"I grieve not that ripe knowledge takes away  
The charm that nature to my childhood wore,  
For, with that insight, cometh day by day,  
A greater bliss than wonder was before;  
The real doth not clip the poet's wings,—  
To win the secret of a weed's plain heart  
Reveals some clew to spiritual things,

And stumbling guess becomes firm-footed art:  
Flowers are not flowers unto the poet's eyes,  
Their beauty thrills him by an inward sense;  
He knows that outward seemings are but lies,  
Or, at the most, but earthly shadows, whence  
The soul that looks within for truth may guess  
The presence of some wondrous heavenliness."—JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL.



Woodland plants could be called "weeds," the title would belong to the Agrimonies. But, as denizens of the forest are hardly "plants out of place," it does not seem quite fair to bestow so opprobrious a name on plants so little harmful. Unsightly and coarse, our species of Agrimonia certainly are. They are, for the most part, rough-hairy herbs. The flowers are small and inconspicuous, with orange-yellow petals. The fruit is more interesting. It consists of two achenes, much like the "seeds" on the outside of a Strawberry. These are completely enclosed in the calyx, which becomes hardened as the fruit matures. It is oblong top-shaped, beset with hooked bristles, making it a bur.

Agrimonia Striata is known in most of the books as Agrimonia Eupatoria. That, however, is a European plant, quite different from ours. Agrimonia Striata inhabits woods and thickets, preferring a rather rich soil. It ranges pretty much throughout extra-tropical North America, flowering from July to the end of summer. It is common almost everywhere. An interesting feature is the root, which consists of a cluster of fibres. Some of these are thickened at the ends like the tuberous roots of the Sweet Potato.

PLATE 238.

FORGET-ME-NOT. MYOSOTIS LAXA. (BORAGE FAMILY.)

*Rootstocks slender, creeping; stem much branched, decumbent or almost erect, leafy, appressed-hairy; leaves alternate, oblong-lanceolate, covered with rough, appressed hairs; flowers small, in long, slender racemes; corolla blue, five-lobed, little exceeding the five-cleft calyx.*

"When to the flowers so beautiful,  
The Father gave a name,  
There came a little blue-eyed one  
(All timidly it came),  
And standing at the Father's feet  
And gazing in his face,

It said in low and trembling tones,  
Yet with a gentle grace:  
'Dear Lord, the name thou gavest me,  
Alas, I have forgot;  
Kindly the Father looked Him down  
And said, 'Forget-me-not.'"



THIS beautiful little plant of marshes and slow running water has been praised and admired since the dawn of history. Some of the sweetest lines of English poetry have been inspired by its meek grace. The emblem of undying love, it is identified with the holiest sentiments. The shy blue eyes, with which it looks up from its humble home by the brookside, seem to speak of modesty, constancy, innocence—all that is most noble. No wonder that with every European people it has been a favorite.

Though we have not Myosotis Palustris, the true European Forget-me-not, in this country, except where it has become naturalized, we have a nearly-related species, Myosotis Laxa, which is considered a mere variety of the European plant. It is found in shallow streams, from Eastern Canada southward as far as North Carolina, flowering all summer. It has blue flowers with a yellow eye, even smaller than those of Myosotis Palustris.



— 237 —  
 AGRIMONY.  
*AGRIMONIA STRIATA.*  
 JULY—SEPT.



— 238 —  
 FORGET-ME-NOT.  
*MYOSOTIS LAXA.*  
 MAY.



PLATE 239.

ROTHROCK'S SPURRED GENTIAN. *HALENIA ROTHROCKII*. (GENTIAN FAMILY.)

*Stem smooth, erect, much-branched, rather slender, four-angled, angles slightly winged; leaves opposite, narrowly linear; acute at apex, sessile, thickish, one-nerved; flowers on long, slender, axillary peduncles; corolla four-lobed, lobes ovate, with long spreading spurs.*



LONG spurs, or cylindrical extensions of the petals, with glands at their ends holding the nectar that insects love, are of frequent occurrence among plants widely different in other features. The Columbines, Larkspurs and Aconites in the Crowfoot Family have them. They are conspicuous in the Violets. The Toad-flax and other Figworts also possess spurred corollas. The long nectariferous spurs aid greatly in giving the odd, irregular appearance to the flowers of Orchids. In the Gentian and allied families such spurs are rarely met with. So that the genus *Halenia*, in which these projections are usually very prominent, is quite easily distinguished from its relatives. *Halenia Deflexa*, a species with greenish or whitish-purple flowers, is found in New England and Eastern Canada, and thence westward and far northward. *Halenia Rothrockii*, a much showier plant, grows in Arizona. It has been collected only on Mt. Graham, where it was found by the indefatigable botanist for whom it was named. It is a handsome plant, low and with slender branching stems. The leaves are smooth and narrow. The blossoms are showy, bright yellow in color. The spreading spurs give them an odd look, not unlike the flowers of the Columbine.

In some species the spurs are occasionally wanting. Whether this is ever the case in Rothrock's *Halenia*, we do not know.

PLATE 240.

SMALL PERIWINKLE. *VINCA MINOR*. (DOGBANE FAMILY.)

*Stem somewhat woody at base, procumbent, leafy, very smooth; leaves opposite, short-petioled, ovate, obtuse, smooth, thickish, shining above, evergreen; flowers solitary in axils of upper leaves, short-pedicelled; corolla salver-shaped, five-lobed, lobes somewhat oblique; ovary with two glands at base; fruit a pair of slender follicles.*



THE Small Periwinkle is an Old World plant, a native of Central and Southern Europe, extending eastward into the region of the Caucasus, and northward, though probably introduced, into England. It delights to dwell in cool, moist woods. It is in old graveyards, with the ivy, where, especially,

"The periwinkle trails its wreaths."

In this country it is sometimes cultivated, but it is not often met with outside of burial-places. In cemeteries it is always at home, covering the cold ground with its kindly shelter of dark green leaves and pretty blue flowers. Here and there it has escaped from these shade-faunts, but very sparingly. Its period of flowering is usually protracted, but May and June find it in its prime.

*Vinca Minor* is a singularly elegant plant. No term better indicates its character. The stems, slender, trailing upon the ground; the leaves, dark green, smooth and polished; the flowers, with their salver-shaped corollas, whose lobes curve upon each other like the volutes of a turbine-wheel—every part is beautiful and graceful in the extreme. There is something restful about the color of the blossoms, a light, clear azure.

*Vinca* is from a Latin word meaning "a band," because of the long wreath-like stems. The name "Periwinkle" has the same origin.



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ROTHROCK'S SPURRED GENTIAN.

HALENIA ROTHROCKII.

AUGUST.



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SMALL PERIWINKLE.

VINCA MINOR.

MAY.



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